

**REMARKS**

In response to the Restriction Requirement presented in the Office Action dated March 21, 2006, the Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-10 and 23-26, for prosecution on the merits. In addition, Applicant elects the following six primers:

Primer Group I (16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:9, and 16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:10)

Primer Group II (16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:15, and 16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:16); and

Primer Group III (16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:25, and 16 or more than 16 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:26).

Further, Applicant elects:

SEQ ID NO:1 having C>T at position 1522

SEQ ID NO:3 having F>I at position 120

Applicant notes that at least some claims of Group II, claims 11-22 and 27, are methods of use claims based upon the elected claims of Group I. Therefore, Applicant requests that should patentable subject matter be found among the elected subject matter, the Examiner rejoin such claims of Group II as would be patentable as methods of use.

**CONCLUSION**

If any additional information should be required in considering this response, or if there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone with Applicant's representative, then the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fee associated with this communication, including any fee for extension of time to respond, to Deposit Account No. 19-2090.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 14, 2006

By: /David A. Farah/  
David A. Farah  
Reg. No. 38,134

SHELDON & MAK PC  
225 South Lake Avenue, 9th Floor  
Pasadena, California 91101-3021  
Tel.: (626) 796-4000  
Fax: (626) 795-6321